

viewed that the progress of these works should be accelerated by the Federal arm; they will not refuse to come to some proper constitutional arrangement upon the subject. The supposition that an equitable rule, which pays a proper respect to the interests and condition of the different States could fail to receive ultimately the constitutional sanction, would be doing injustice to the intelligence of the country. By such a settlement of the question, our political system, in addition to the other advantages derived from it, would, in relation to this subject at least, be relieved from those dangerous shocks which spring from diversities of opinion upon constitutional points of deep interest; and, in the mean time, the resources of the country would be best husbanded by being left in the hands of those by whose labor they are produced."

To this exposition of my opinions upon the general subject, were added some additional observations, in my letter to Mr. Williams, already referred to. They were chiefly applicable to "the improvement of our harbors and the removal of partial and temporary obstructions in our navigable rivers, for the facility of our foreign commerce," and the best means of checking the tendency to abuses which such appropriations often produced. To the principles laid down in the two publications referred to, I still adhere, and it has been my endeavor to carry them into full and fair effect in the administration of the Government since I have been at its head. If they have been departed from, in respect to any works commenced under my administration, I am not advised of it.

In conclusion, you ask me, "whether I approve of Mr. Poinsett's scheme for the organization of militia?"

My knowledge of military affairs is very limited; but I will nevertheless give you such views as I have been able to take of the subject of your inquiry.

The Constitution of the United States authorizes Congress to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing them when in the service of the United States—reserving to the States the appointment of officers and the authority to train the militia, according to the mode of discipline prescribed by Congress. In execution of this grant of power, Congress, during the administration of General Washington, and upon his recommendation, passed a law for the organization of the militia of the United States. By this act, it is provided, first, that every free white citizen of the United States, resident therein, between the ages of fifteen and forty-five, (with some enumerated exemptions,) are to be enrolled and divided by the several States into companies, battalions, regiments, brigades and divisions, upon principles therein established, and, in like manner, officered by them, according to the rules prescribed by Congress for determining their number and respective rank. 2d. That the militia thus enrolled shall be armed at their own expense. 3d. That they shall be disciplined according to the rules approved and established by Congress, on the 24th of March, 1779; and 4th. That the rules for the Government of the militia when called into service of the United States, (the manner and occasions of doing which being pointed out by law,) shall be the same rules and articles of war, as are provided for the Government of the troops of the United States.

The provisions of the act of 1792, which obliges every citizen duly enrolled to be "constantly provided with arms, accoutrements, and ammunition," was re-enacted during the administration of Mr. Jefferson, and so much of that act as established the discipline and regulations of Baron Steuben was subsequently repealed, and the system of discipline and exercises of the regular army was adopted by the militia. These additional provisions, with occasional acts respecting the appointment of the officers by the States, and changing the regulations concerning the pay and subsistence of the militia, when in the actual service of the United States; and the preparation and distribution of a system of tactics, constitute every material part of the legislation of Congress upon the subject of the militia since the establishment of the Government.

The organization of the militia thus established has been in force nearly fifty years. It varies in many essential particulars from that recommended by Gen. Washington, and has been regarded ever since its adoption, as defective in an eminent degree, as well by the successive Presidents of the United States, as by all other persons, whose habits of life and opportunities of personal observation have fitted them to form sound opinions upon the subject. Its improvement was therefore an object of unceasing and anxious solicitude on the part of General Washington, and almost every successive President commenced his career with calling the attention of Congress to the subject, and closed it with expressions of regret that these recommendations had proved unavailing. General Cass when Secretary of War, stated, in an official report, that this subject had been presented for consideration no less than thirty-one times in official Executive communications, commencing with the inaugural address of President Washington.

The principal objections to the present system appear to arise from the great and unnecessary extent of the enrolment of the militia held to actual service, and who are required to muster and do duty a certain number of days in the year, and from the want of adequate means or inducements to secure a proper instruction; by reason of which this heavy tax is not

only rendered in a great degree useless, but is also unreasonably burdensome.

By the Federal Constitution, Congress has the power to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrection and repel invasion. The militia force provided for these purposes, by existing laws, and which to render it effective, is compelled to be at all times provided with arms, accoutrements and ammunition, and to be mustered and drilled at stated periods, and kept always ready for service, comprises, with limited and enumerated exemptions, the whole of the able-bodied male white population of the United States, between the ages of eighteen and forty-five. When it is considered that the number of these, according to official returns, exceeds a million and a half of men, and probably at this period, amounts to two millions, the immense and consequently oppressive extent of the existing preparatory enrolment, beyond the possible wants of the country, must be apparent to all. How far the existing organization and laws passed by the States in pursuance thereof have proved successful in accomplishing the great object in view, viz: the instruction and improvement of citizen soldiers in military tactics, you are able to judge for yourselves. The results were short time since summed up by the officer before alluded to, in these emphatic words: "It is vain to expect that the whole adult population of the country can, or will furnish themselves with the articles required by law; or that their collection, for any number of days they can afford to devote to this object, and under the usual circumstances of such assemblages, can produce any beneficial effects to themselves or their country. Already, in a number of the States, the system has sunk under the weight of public opinion; and the practical question now is, whether we shall remain in fact defenceless, or, as a large standing military force in time of peace, at just dread of all free Governments, or adopt an efficient plan, which will prepare for the public defence the greatest force at the least cost, and without danger."

To remedy the evils of the present system, it has been repeatedly proposed to reorganize the militia, in such manner as to reduce the number of men, who shall be fitted and always ready to perform the service contemplated by the Constitution, say from the number of two millions to two hundred thousand, and to pay the latter a reasonable compensation of the National Treasury, in order to remunerate them for the increased burden thus imposed upon them. Several plans to effect this purpose, have, from time to time, been submitted to Congress, by successive Secretaries of War, commencing with General Knox's, in 1790, and ending with that of Mr. Poinsett, in 1840. That Mr. Poinsett's is, in several respects, preferable to those which have preceded it, and is calculated to effect a more equitable disposition of the whole military force of the country than any heretofore presented, appears to have been the opinion of the committee of both Houses of Congress. The grounds of this preference are fully set forth in the able reports made by their respective chairmen, at the last session, which have been published, and extensively circulated, and are stated as follows:

1st. It extends the pay, for the period occupied in training, to privates as well as to commissioned and non-commissioned officers, to whom it was limited in the plans of others. 2d. It introduces the principle of rotation, by which the period during which the citizens are engaged in training is diminished, and the instruction they receive more directly imparted to the man, and the burdens as well as benefits, more equally distributed among the people.

3d. In excluding from enrolment all between 18 and 20 years of age, being the period of life in which young men are employed in finishing their education, learning a trade, or studying the profession by which they hope to obtain a livelihood, in these preferences, I concur. In all other respects the different plans are understood to be substantially the same. They are so with regard to the authority of the officers over the privates, and the rules for the government of all when called out for drill. They all propose that the rules should be those established for the government of the army. The existing law applies those rules to the militia, when called into the service of the United States, and has done so for many years past. Mr. Poinsett's plan does not add a single penalty or new provision. There certainly exists to some extent a prejudice in the public mind against the application of the same rule to the discipline of citizen soldiers, who are only called out for short periods of service, as that which is applied by all nations to those who are in actual service. It will be for Congress to decide whether the opinions of experienced military men, whether the discipline of the militia, when called into the service of the United States, will admit of any relaxation. No one appears yet to have thought so. The rule by which Congress should be governed, in my opinion, is to confer as much authority as necessary, to subordination and improvement, and to adapt the regulations as far as practicable to the character of the force, and the feelings and habits of our people. The different plans are also alike in requiring the militia to arm itself. It is true Mr. Poinsett contemplates the establishment of depots of arms and accoutrements at the expense of the Federal Government, near the places where the militia are to muster for training; but, like all his predecessors, he proposes to leave in force the present law, which makes it the duty of every enrolled citizen to be constantly provided with arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, at his own expense. This law, it will be remembered, was enacted under the administration of Gen. Washington, and was re-enacted under that of Mr. Jefferson. Regarded as an indication of the principles of our Government, which confides the protection of the liberties of the country to the maintenance of public order to the hands of the free citizens of the Republic, it was honorable to our legislation, and stands in beautiful contrast with the institutions of other countries by which the people, so far from being compelled to have arms, are denied the right to possess them, and deprived of their use. But the other inefficiency of this provision, is, that it leaves the people to arm themselves properly has been fully demonstrated. It is vain to expect, says Gov. Cass in the report before cited, "that the whole adult male population of the country can, or will, furnish themselves with the articles required by law." Wherever a military pride is excited, as in the case with volunteer associations, the law is obeyed; but it cannot, it appears to me, be carried into execution with the mass of the militia without a more rigorous exercise of authority on the part of the Government than is consistent with the spirit of our institutions. Mr. Poinsett's plan proposed to establish depots of arms in the several States at the public expense, to be used when training, or in actual service by the militia selected for duty, and as it was not contemplated to muster the rest of the militia for discipline, it will in my judgment be well worthy of serious consideration, whether a repeal of the provisions of the law which requires the militia to arm themselves at their own expense, leaving it in their option to be so provided or not; and the distribution of arms to the full extent that may be necessary to supply the militia when called into active service, ought not to constitute a part of any plan for the reorganization of the militia, by which a portion of them are to be instructed at the expense of the rest. The inclination of my own mind would be decidedly in favor of such a course. The right in which the existing law, requiring all who are enrolled to arm themselves, is regarded, may be gathered from the fact, that men of good standing and supposed intelligence in the country, have either been so ignorant of its ex-

istence themselves, or have counted so largely on the ignorance of their fellow-citizens, as to charge Mr. Poinsett with an attempt to originate the measure, when, in truth, he only transferred it to his plan from his statute-book, where it had stood for forty-seven years.

But, in my opinion, the difficulties which beset this subject lie deeper than this. You have seen that the committees of Congress have repeatedly against a reorganization of the militia upon the principle of classification, and that they have been virtually sustained in their objections by their respective houses. You have seen, also, that plans embracing the same principle have been recommended in vain for the last half-century by Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and Jackson—men who have always commanded the respect of Congress, and whose measures seldom failed to receive its support. This may be accounted for by the mistaken supposition of the part assumed by a standing military force, which unavoidably extends itself to large and protracted encampments even of the militia. But the principal difficulty has undoubtedly arisen out of the provisions of the Federal Constitution, relating to this subject. By that instrument, the power to train the militia is reserved to the States. To reduce the number to be relied upon for active service by classification, might easily be done, because the right to organize is given to Congress by the Constitution; but the desired efficiency could not be secured, unless that number were better trained; and to that end it is requisite that they should be kept together for longer periods of time than is now practised. To do this without manifest injustice, provision must be made for their payment. Nor is it believed that they would in general be properly instructed and disciplined, unless they were all called out & received into the service of the United States. If this can be constitutionally done, the payments may be made out of the national treasury. But the Constitution authorizes the Federal Government to call the militia into service in only three enumerated cases, viz: to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrection, and repel invasion. Not only is the authority to assemble them for training not granted to Congress, but it is expressly reserved to the States. If, therefore, the right to call out, or to receive the militia into the service of the United States for such a purpose, be assumed by the General Government, it can only assume the authority to provide for disciplining the militia, a construction which, to say the least of it, is extremely doubtful; for the sentence of the Constitution which reserves to the States respectively the authority of training the militia, directly also that it should be done according to the discipline prescribed by Congress, thus excluding, as it would seem by necessary inference, the idea that its authors used the two terms in the same sense.

Mr. Poinsett seems to have been more sensibly impressed with this obstacle than his predecessors, and endeavors to overcome it by proposing to rely on volunteers, and where drafts are necessary, he proposes that they should be made by the States themselves. But can the constitutional objection be thus avoided? Can Congress appropriate money for objects to which their authority does not extend?

A proposition was made several years since to meet the objection fully by amending the Constitution and giving Congress power to provide for training the militia concurrently with the States, and to subject them to the same regulations, which they are by law subjected when in the military service of the United States; and to provide for teaching in the primary schools and seminaries of learning throughout the Union, the system of discipline prescribed for the militia. The proposition does not appear to have found favor either with Congress or with the people.

It is but justly that my attention has been particularly drawn to this subject, and, as there is no doubt that the great mass to whom I have alluded contemplated an organization of the militia, and provisions for its better instruction, and being substantially the principles contained in Mr. Poinsett's plan, it becomes me, in the face of so much apparent authority, to hesitate before I pronounce definitely upon its constitutionality. I shall, I am confident, in the opinion of all candid minds, best perform my duty by refraining to do so, until it becomes necessary to act officially in the matter. In the mean time, I will content myself with saying that the inclination of my mind is that the desired result cannot be fully accomplished, in the form proposed, under the Federal Constitution, as it stands.

Having thus given you the best opinions that I have been able to form of the important subjects to which you have called my attention, you will, I hope, allow me to notice briefly one or two collateral considerations.

Mr. Poinsett's uncontroverted account of the origin and progress of his plan is before you. He shows that it grew out of the request made of him by the Committee on the Militia of the House of Representatives, at the close of the session held in 1839, in contemplation of a possible collision between the country and Great Britain, and that it was matured and drawn forth under a call made upon him by the House at the last session. Some surprise has been expressed, and doubts appear even to be entertained of the correctness of his declaration, that the plan was not seen by me, or submitted to my consideration, before it was communicated to Congress. Those who take this view of the subject, do not overlook the fact, that such is almost invariably the case on all similar occasions; and that in replying to calls made upon them by either branch of the Legislature, the heads of Departments act for Congress, and not for the President; except only on occasions where his acts are brought in question. The impracticability of pursuing a different course, if even it were otherwise desirable, will be appreciated, when it is considered how very numerous these calls have recently been, amounting as they have done to two hundred and twenty at a single session, independently of those made on the President himself, and of letters from committees, requiring great research, and the preparation of voluminous documents. Unfair as these annotations are shown to be, this has not been even the worst aspect in which they have been presented. We have been compelled to see, not, I should think, without shame and mortification on the part of every ingenious mind, what every man of his political preferences, the names of respectable citizens subscribed to statements, that I had in my annual message expressed my approval of a plan, which not only never had been submitted to me, but was not even known until more than three months after the message was sent to Congress; and an attempt to prove the unfounded assumption by the publication of a garbled extract from that document, with its true meaning falsified by the suppression of a material part. Nor was the avowed object of these extraordinary proceedings less remarkable than the acts themselves, being nothing less than an attempt to fix upon me the design of establishing a standing army of two hundred thousand men, for political and personal purposes. If I had been charged with the design of establishing a standing army, at the public expense, a number of two hundred thousand well trained men, it would not have surprised me more, nor would it, in my judgment, have been one jot more preposterous.

I am, fortunately, gentlemen, not over-sensitive to attacks of this character, and have, without an abiding confidence in the intelligence of all such people, which renders them proof against all such attempts to deceive them. If I submitted my own feelings, my chief regret in witnessing such degrading exhibitions, arises from a consideration of the opinion, which foreigners, who have not the same reasons to respect our political institutions that we have, are likely to form of the character of our people, when they see that conspicuous men among us can promise themselves any advantages, from attempts to delude their fellow-citizens, by means of such monstrous assertions. Their regret is, however, I confess, materially diminished, by the conviction that the people will in the sequel, as they have heretofore done, convince those who attempt in this manner to operate upon their credulity, of the folly of seeking to accomplish, in this country, political objects by such discreditable means.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen, Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, M. VAN BUREN. To Messrs. John B. Cary, A. G. Hudgins, Thomas Jones, and G. A. Cary, of Elizabeth City county, Virginia.

THE STANDARD.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE MILITIA.

It is proper to remind our readers, that at the commencement of the last session of Congress, the Secretary of War suggested to Congress that the Militia of the United States ought to be divided into classes, the younger class to be more thoroughly drilled than at present; and the older classes relieved from mustering altogether. He did not go into detail; he gave no plan or scheme, by which this system was to be carried out; in fact, he said but few words on the subject. It was in allusion to this suggestion, that Mr. Van Buren said, in his message, he could not too strongly recommend the plan to the consideration of Congress. In doing so, he followed in the footsteps of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson; all of whom had recommended such a classification. Their reason for doing so is obvious. The present system is little better than a farce. What do men learn under it, that would qualify them to defend their country against a foreign enemy? Nothing. Some change then is necessary; and as all military men despair of effectually drilling all the militia of the Union; they have unanimously agreed that a part shall be drilled; and the remainder relieved from the burden and expense of mustering. This is Gen. Harrison's plan as presented to Congress in a report and bill, at three successive sessions of Congress, in 1817, '18 and '19. Yet his supporters are now brawling against Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Poinsett, from one end of the country to the other, for recommending the same thing. *Quere?* As Gen. Harrison never changes, and as we are referred to his former acts and declarations, for his present opinions; is he not still in favor of this plan whilst all his friends are denouncing it? Will his Committee answer?

Some have objected to the expense of paying the 100,000 men who would be drilled annually; for, it is one, and not two hundred thousand, who are to muster a certain number of days, yearly, for four years; and then to fall back into the Reserve of 100,000 men for another four years; after which they are discharged entirely, except in time of war. The expense is estimated by the Secretary of War at \$500,000 yearly. We have about two millions of militia men in the United States; all of whom are required to muster two days in each year; and many of them, who belong to independent companies, muster as often as four, five or six days each year. Let any man estimate the cost of this mustering, on the present plan, to the people of the Union, for each and every year. Count the time lost by each man; count the money expended by each man; consider the time and expense of officer musters; include, also, the courts of inquiry and courts of appeal held by the officers for the assessment of fines; add, also, the time and money lost in collecting the fines, &c.—and we venture to assert, that the loss to the nation is not less than three millions of dollars annually. Mr. Poinsett's plan would cost half a million. Here, then, is two millions and a half saved to the nation annually. What is gained in point of military knowledge, to the nation, by the present system? Nothing at all. What would be gained by a classification and instruction such as has been recommended by all our Republican Presidents, from Washington to Van Buren? A well organized force of two hundred thousand freemen, ready, at a moment's warning, to rally to the standard of their country and defend us against all foreign invaders, until others could be brought out and instructed in their duty and prepared to take their places in the line, for the purpose of relieving these Militia veterans.

Let us hear no more Federal slang about a standing Army. Go and read the facts as given in the public documents; and remember that in condemning Mr. Van Buren you are condemning the Father of his country and the best patriots of the Revolution; nay, you are condemning the great "certified Hero" of Tippecanoe himself. He not only proposed the same thing; but wanted to amend the Constitution of the United States; so that the President could send officers to all the school houses, academies, colleges in the Union, to teach the little boys militia tactics. This was all to be done at the expense of the nation; be-

fore done, convince those who attempt in this manner to operate upon their credulity, of the folly of seeking to accomplish, in this country, political objects by such discreditable means. I have the honor to be, gentlemen, Very respectfully, Your obedient servant, M. VAN BUREN. To Messrs. John B. Cary, A. G. Hudgins, Thomas Jones, and G. A. Cary, of Elizabeth City county, Virginia.

From the Cincinnati Advertiser and Journal. THE STANDING ARMY, OF 200,000 MEN!

We this day publish one of the most interesting documents ever laid before the American people—the reply of the President of the United States, to certain interrogations propounded to him by four respectable citizens of Virginia, upon the most important topics of the day, which we recommend to the particular attention of our readers, who there will find that Mr. Van Buren, with the utmost promptitude, expresses his sentiments upon those important points. His "policy" is not that of his competitor, "to make no declaration of principles for the public eye, whilst in his present position." His policy is, openly and fearlessly to avow his principles, and to make declaration of those upon which he will conduct the government if elected. And let the people vote or vote not for him, at the ensuing election, he writes no private letters to one part of the Union in favor of abolition, and to another part of it in direct opposition to abolitionism. He does not confess that he was a member of an abolition society to one man, and declares to another that he never was—or "till within a few weeks never knew of the existence of such societies." He does not, for months, cajole the abolitionists, and impress them with the belief that he is friendly to their cause, and boast to the slaveholders that no man, south of Mason and Dixon's line, has done more for the cause of slavery. He treats all men alike. His declarations are openly made to all parties. He skulks not under incendiary letters that must not be published, but may be made any other use of.

Let the reader look to the delicate manner in which he alludes to his competitor, and compare it with the report of that competitor's speech at Greenville, in which he denounces Mr. Van Buren with intending to "add to the regular force of the Union, a standing army of 200,000 men."

Let the reader compare the document presented to him this day, with the Bobadil, egotistical speeches of General Harrison, replete with absolute falsehoods as well as misrepresentations, and then decide which of the two is best qualified for the office they pretend to, and which best deserves his support at the election.

GEN. HARRISON'S STANDING ARMY.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, OF THE UNITED STATES, February 28, 1817. Mr. HARRISON submitted the following proposition of amendment to the Constitution of the United States:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, (two thirds of both houses concurring therein) That the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States be proposed to the Legislature of the several States; which, when ratified by the Legislatures of three-fourths of said States, shall be valid, to all intents and purposes, as a part of the said Constitution.

Congress shall, concurrently with the States, have power to provide for training the militia, according to the discipline prescribed for that purpose, and, whilst engaged in that service, they shall be subject to the rules and regulations prescribed for the government of the militia when in military service of the United States; and, also, to provide for teaching, in the primary schools and other seminaries of learning in the several States, the system of discipline prescribed for the militia.

Vincennes, March 10, 1860.

DEAR SIR: Instead of a few days now appropriated to training, and the very few hours of those days actually employed, some weeks, at least must be devoted to the purpose, and the men must be taught in camps of discipline, those duties, which, representing a faithful image of actual war, form the best school in which it can be taught.

"I have recommended camps of discipline for instructing those who are already capable of bearing arms; but the career of military instruction for our youth should commence as soon as their mental and bodily powers have acquired sufficient strength.—Professorship of tactics should be established in all our seminaries, and even the amusements of the children should resemble the gymnasia of the Greeks.

"It will, no doubt, be urged as a reason for continuing the old plan, that the poorer class of our citizens cannot spare five or six weeks in a year from their farms to do military duty. I know that they cannot without being paid. But is not our government able to pay them? If not, they ought to make themselves so, by laying on additional taxes. But I am persuaded that the money which is devoted to other objects might be more usefully, and certainly more consistently, devoted to this purpose. Under our present circumstances the six thousand regular troops we have are very proper; but I think one hundred thousand disciplined militia would be better, and the money

which is spent in the former would soon effect the discipline of the latter.

WILLIAM H. HARRISON.

JACKSON AND VAN BUREN.

Extract from Gen. Jackson's letter to Mr. Bryce of Crawfordsville, Ind., dated Hermitage May 9, 1840.

"My relations with Mr. Van Buren continue, as they were throughout my administration, of the most friendly nature. They have, if possible, been made more cordial, as far as my feelings are concerned, by the signal ability and steadiness with which he has steered the vessel of state through the storm which has of late threatened it. To think of abandoning him when he is so nobly performing his duty, would be treachery to republican principles.

ANDREW JACKSON.

From the Nashville Union.

"THE PROSPECT."

"While the feds are making such noodes of themselves over partial returns of elections for State officers in States that the Democracy never claimed, we will just show them how the case really stands.

| For Van Buren. | Doubtful. | For Harrison. |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Massachusetts 14 | Vermont 7 | Kentucky 15 |
| Maine 10 | Illinois 5 | R. Island 4 |
| N. Hampshire 7 | Michigan 3 | Connecticut 8 |
| N. York 43 | N. Jersey 8 | Indiana 9 |
| Pennsylvania 39 | Maryland 10 | |
| Virginia 23 | Louisiana 5 | 36 |
| N. Carolina 15 | Ohio 21 | |
| S. Carolina 11 | Delaware 3 | |
| Georgia 11 | | 62 |
| Alabama 7 | | |
| Mississippi 4 | | |
| Tennessee 15 | | |
| Arkansas 2 | | |
| Missouri 4 | | |

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This is a liberal scale for whiggery. Democratic Illinois wishes to be placed in the first column.—Standard.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING.

On Saturday the 5th day of September next, a meeting will be held in Georgetown, Brown County, Ohio, The Hon. T. L. Hamer, Gen. J. J. McDowell, T. J. Buchanan, Esq., and other distinguished gentlemen, will address the meeting. The friends of truth of every name are requested to attend.

ANDREW ELLISON, D. G. DEVORE, P. L. WILSON, WILLIAM McNEAL, SAM'L M. BLAIR, JOHN ELLISON, Committee of vigilance and correspondence. Aug. 10, 1840.

PROCLAMATION.

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE STATE OF OHIO.

WHEREAS, It is provided by the first section of the act entitled "an act to provide for the election of Electors of President and Vice President of the United States," passed Feb. 15th, 1820, "That the Governor of this State, sixty days previous to the time provided by this act for the election of Electors of President and Vice President of the United States, shall, by proclamation, to be inserted in one of the newspapers printed in each county, in this State, where any such paper is printed, give notice of the time of holding such election, and the number of Electors of President and Vice President, there to be chosen."

Therefore, in discharge of the duty required by the provision of the aforesaid act, I, WILSON SHANNON, Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby notify and require the qualified electors of this State, to assemble in their respective townships at the usual places designated for holding elections, on the last FRIDAY, being the THIRTIETH day of OCTOBER next, and then and there proceed to elect twenty-one electors of President and Vice President of the United States, in pursuance of the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State.

In testimony whereof, I, WILSON SHANNON, Governor of the State of Ohio, have hereunto subscribed my name, and caused [L. S.] the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, at Columbus, the 20th day of August in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty, and in the sixty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

By the Governor:

WILSON SHANNON. WILLIAM TRIVITT, Secretary of State.

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, MARTIN VAN BUREN.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT, RICHARD M. JOHNSON.

OHIO ELECTORAL TICKET.

SENATORIAL ELECTORS. BENJAMIN JONES, of Wayne county, FRANK A. CUNNINGHAM, of Preble.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTORS.

- 1st District, John H. Gerard,
2d " James B. Cameron,
3d " Christopher Sroufe,
4th " Nathan Kelly,
5th " James Cole,
6th " William Skinner,
7th " John A. Fulton,
8th " George W. Sharp,
9th " Daniel Karshner,
10th " John P. Hambleton,
11th " Samuel Smith,
12th " Calvin Ackley,
13th " James Hoagland,
14th " Ephraim Wood,
15th " Joseph Lewis,
16th " John Sherman,
17th " William Deford,
18th " Matthias Shepley,
19th " James Simersal.

OCTOBER ELECTION.

FOR GOVERNOR OF OHIO, WILSON SHANNON.

For Congress, WILLIAM DOAN.

For Representatives Of the District composed of Brown, Clermont and Clinton.

DAVID G. DEVORE, of Brown County, THOMAS J. BUCHANAN, of Clermont, T. L. CAROTHERS, of Clinton.

For Sheriff, JOHN J. HIGGINS.

For Auditor, JAMES J. SMITH.

For Recorder, DAVID CRAWFORD.

For Commissioner, SAMUEL KERR.

For Coroner, SYLVESTER SHAW.